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Northern Region News

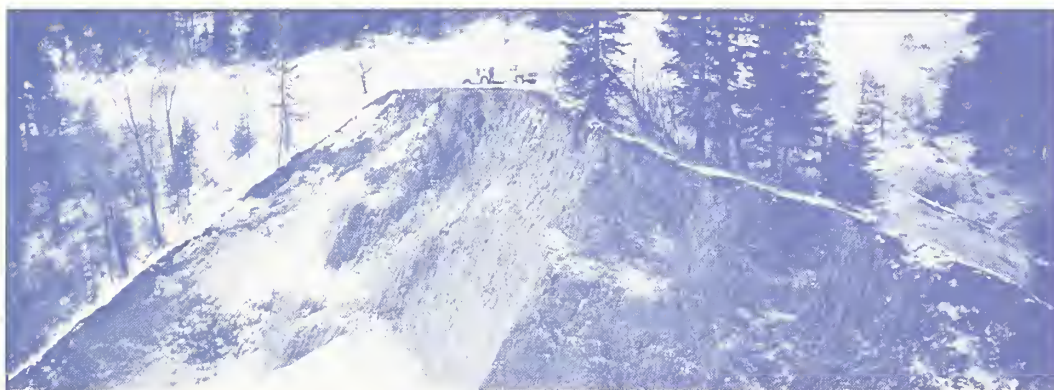
A Newsletter for Employees and Retirees

ISSUE 3

March 1996

Severe Flooding Damages

Watersheds, Roads, Fisheries



Beginning of massive Moss Creek slide. It shot material downslope a half-mile onto and over Loop Creek road (No. 326) and into Loop Creek.
Photo by Larry Shepherd.

by John Neirinckx, Operations Civil Engineer,
Idaho Panhandle NFs, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Weather patterns in northern Idaho in November resulted in severe flooding on the Idaho Panhandle National Forests. The flooding did significant damage to the Forests' transportation system, fisheries and recently rehabbed watersheds. It all started in the Lightning Creek drainage on the Sandpoint RD in mid-November. Rain on snow plugged several box culverts on the Lightning Creek and Rattle Creek roads.

A rock/log jam 100 yards above the Rattle Creek road completely closed this road. It is expected to remain closed until the spring. The jam diverted Benning Creek away from its previous channel through a six-foot culvert to its new route down the centerline of the road for more than 1/3 of a mile.

Cost estimates are approximately \$50,000 for repairing the Rattle Creek road and a few box culverts on the Lightning Creek road.

The Bonners Ferry RD reported many culverts plugged and approximately 200 miles of road surface damaged. However,

most of these repairs may not qualify under the emergency repair (ERFO) program. The Central Zone has many plugged culverts, a road closure at Brown's Creek Saddle and

several other specific sites with significant damage.

The South Zone was hardest hit. The Loop Creek road (which accesses the south portal of the Taft Tunnel) is closed due to slides and washouts. A major road fill at Moss Creek on the old Milwaukee Road railroad grade was washed out. The

Loop Creek road remains closed, even to snowmobiles, because of the road washouts.

Avery to Wallace travelers had to go through St. Maries and Interstate 90 because the Moon Pass road was completely blocked by a slide at Bullion Creek. St. Joe River road was down to one lane at Halfway Hill. There are many other damaged roads on our South Zone.

The cost of repairing the November flood damage on the IPNF is currently estimated at approximately \$1,000,000.

North Idaho Floods

Slide Closes Road, Dams Quartz Creek on Clearwater NF

by Anne Connor, civil engineer,
Clearwater NF, SO,
Orofino, Idaho

On the North Fork RD, Clearwater NF, a mid-November slide in the Quartz Creek drainage closed road No. 711 and formed a dam on Quartz Creek. The debris is primarily large rock, some as large as school buses.

The rock debris is from 50 to 75 feet deep and extends approximately 420 feet, for a total yardage of between 100,000 to 200,000 cubic yards. The pond formed on Quartz

See SLIDE
Continued on Page 2



Foundation & Forest Service Folks at the presentation of the National Rural Community Assistance Award: (left to right) Bob Ohmstede, Elizabeth Jutus, Ernest Simpson, Charles Wallace, James Campbell, Dr. Hobart Jenkins, Dave Wright and Dwight Markinson (down front). Photo by Grady Myers.

Bayview Center Is Good Example Of "Real Community"

by Kerry Arneson, Public Affairs Staff,
Idaho Panhandle National Forest

The citizens of Bayview, Idaho, (population 350) are proud of their new community center. This small community is on the southwest bank of Lake Pend Orielle, northeast of Coeur d'Alene.

In November, Idaho Panhandle NFs Supervisor Dave Wright presented Dr. Hobart G. Jenkins, representing the Bayview Community Center Foundation, the Forest Service's 1995 National Rural Community Assistance Award. It was one of the 19 such awards given in recognition of outstanding examples of successful implementation of the Forest Service strategy for rural community assistance: "Working Together for Rural America."

Bayview's dream was to build a community center to provide instructional and production space to develop skills to enlarge the small, cottage industries. Bayview is increasingly attracting artists and

retirees to the area. Residents and local leaders believe the economic development of Bayview can be accelerated by having a center that offers programs for these two groups.

A Community Center Foundation was organized, involving partnerships with lumber companies, engineering firms, retirees, State and Federal agencies, county commissioners and individuals in the area.

A \$20,000 building site was given to the foundation by Charles Wallor. The foundation received three grants [U.S. Block Grant; Idaho Dept. of Commerce Development Grant; Forest Service Community Development Grant] that provided approximately \$165,000. Seventy-one local volunteers (20% of Bayview's population) pledged \$5,480 each year for 10 years to pay the bank loan for the center.

Wright explained that the community also responded with engineering services, construction materials, volunteer labor and heavy machine operation. Hobart Jenks, foundation president, said volunteers always stepped forward whenever there was need for help installing windows, building cabinets or any other work that needed to be done.

Construction started in 1994. The center was completed the following year. Wright nominated the foundation for the award for their "exceptional leadership, vision, perseverance and the ability to bring a dream to reality."

Garry Cuff of the Idaho Department of Commerce observed that "If there ever was a textbook example of community, State and Federal participation toward a common goal, the Bayview Community Center is it."

SLIDE

Continued from page 1

Creek above the dam is approximately 2 1/2 acres in size. The slide directed the stream flow into the fill slope of the road below the slide, causing the road to fall into the creek.

Slope stability experts are visiting the site to evaluate what caused the slide and what can be done to rehabilitate the area.

The slide is still very active and will continue to be an extreme safety hazard to visitors. District Ranger Art Bourassa has ordered the road barricaded and is discouraging all site visits until conditions dry out and stabilize.

Right:
Slide in the Quartz Creek Drainage closed Clearwater NF road no. 711 in November.
Photo by Dean Brinkman.



Data General Computers Being Replaced By IBM

by Bruce Jeske,
Management Systems,
Northern Region Headquarters,
Missoula, Montana



Jan Zarling (left) & Nancy Dillon, RO Management Systems, check out one of the 3,000 new IBM units being installed in Ranger Stations, SO and the RO.

The Forest Service is phasing out the 12-year-old, servicewide Data General (DG) computers. The familiar DG machines are being replaced with International Business Machine (IBM) computers. These will eventually provide computing services for all employees.

Throughout the Region, approximately 3,000 obsolete DG terminals will be phased out and replaced with IBM terminals and workstations. These new terminals have full color graphics capabilities and use a pointing device, often called a "mouse."

Eventually, all R-1 DG equipment will be replaced. The RO will probably support the last remaining DG computer as a Regional repository. This will ensure we have some access to DG information and processes until the time that all of our business is being done on IBM systems.

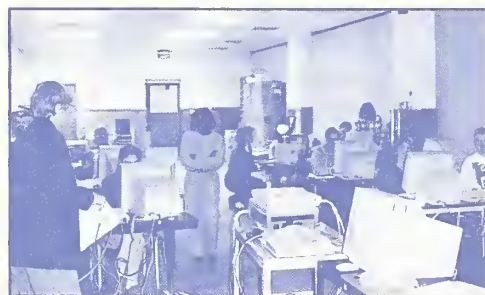
R-1's phase out/in started in 1995, after the award of the Forest Service computer contract to IBM. Intent is to be fully implemented in about three years, although many employees will be using this equipment for their daily work long before then. As with the DG, IBM equipment will be installed to be readily accessible by all R-1 employees.

Records, files, correspondence and data stored in the DG's CEO/IS system, that will be needed for future operations can be moved to the new equipment. As DG equipment is phased out, important information that remains on DG systems may be transferred to the computer system in the RO as the point of last repository.

Management Systems has incorporated step-by-step training to assist employees

become proficient and begin utilizing the new IBM capabilities. This will be accomplished through the use of techniques like on-line help, tutorials, and a series of short, training modules targeted to specific subject areas, such as drafting memos, simple spread sheets, accessing data in data bases, creating color graphics, and other new capabilities not available on the aging DG. The IBM is operated through Desktop software. This uses windows, graphics, icons, and text to mimic how many people organize and manage information on their desks. The new system builds on the concepts that have been part of our existing DG systems. These include built-in security, shared file systems, access controls, common family of integrated software products, and the ability to readily share information throughout the Forest Service. Along with this, the IBM brings a wide range of new capabilities.

Data processing in R-1 dates back almost 40 years (1957) when the RO equipment consisted of an electrical accounting machine, tab machine, collator, sorter, keypunch operation and verifiers. Two years later an IBM 604 calculator was purchased. It included a card reader, punch, and central processing unit. The staff, thirty-four years ago (1961), consisted of six keypunch operators, a supervisor, a director, assistant director and three computer operators. By 1965, timber stands, accounting, engineering road design and plots were on a control data 3100. Key punch cards were the only form of data entry.



Pat Stowell, (left) computer specialist, RO Management Systems, conducts a training class in the new IBM computer system being installed in Northern Region offices.



Betty Toczek, (above) computer specialist, RO Ecosystem Assment & Planning, and **Alice Echols**, (below) computer specialist, RO Management Systems, provide familiarization instruction for the new computer system for Forest Service employees in the RO.



Installing IBM Equipment

Powering Up for 21st Century: 615 Computer System Replacing DG

by Arlene Green, Computer System Manager,
and Suzanne Burnside, Forestry Technician,
Idaho Panhandle NFs, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

The Idaho Panhandle National Forests (IPNF) are tooling up for the 21st Century, replacing the Data General (DG) computers with the 615 IBM computer system.

New equipment has been installed and more is expected in mid-1996. The 615 system will give the Forests and Ranger Districts more flexibility in sharing data. It will permit a more integrated environment across the three Forests.

While the equipment is being installed and employees are trained on the new computer system, the DG will be phased out over the

next three to five years. IPNF employees have been attending "Basic Getting Started" sessions in the SO and in St. Maries. More than 270 employees had completed the training by mid-February. Training in Office Automation is scheduled over the next six months.

Those who have mastered the DG keyboard, will have to learn a new keyboard setup and get acquainted with the IBM mouse. It will take some time to get comfortable with the required coordination.

Features will be added to the IBM system over time. New additions to the 615 include

an area for browsing "Tips and How To's." When you have questions, you will be able to write up the question and drop it into the HelpDesk. If you discover a nifty trick, you can share it with others by adding it to TIPS.

Everything on the DG will be moved to the IBM 615 system. It will not be done by magic; there are some things you as a user will have to do: begin now to clean out old DG files and think about what needs to be moved to the IBM. Guidelines are being developed and will be available soon.

Prevent Noxious Weeds

Weed Free Forage Required in R-1

by Jim Olivarez, Group Leader,
Noxious Weeds, RO Forest & Rangeland Management

The use of weed seed free forage is part of the prevention strategy used in R-1's Integrated Weed Management program.

The intent is twofold. First, to prevent the spread of noxious weeds into weed-free areas. Second, to prevent the spread of specific noxious weed species, such as yellow starthistle, into National Forest areas where they currently do not exist.

Starting January 1, 1996, all hay, straw or mulch used on National Forests in the State of Idaho has to be certified as noxious weed free or weed seed free.

This prevention strategy has been in use for years on Montana National Forests, where partial or total Forest restrictions are in effect. National Forests in Montana have individually decided if and when they will require the use of weed seed free forage. This tactic encouraged National Forests to build solid, cooperative ties with local county

weed boards, other State and Federal agencies and associated forage suppliers. A critical aspect of this prevention strategy requires that adequate supplies of certified weed seed free forage be conveniently available to Forest users.

In 1996, the National Forests in Montana will consider imposing the weed seed free forage requirement for all National Forest lands in the State, similar to the State-wide requirement in Idaho.

Currently the entire Beaverhead-Deerlodge, Gallatin and Helena NFs in Montana require the use of certified weed seed free forage. The restriction also applies to the Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness (portion in Beaverhead, Bitterroot and Deerlodge NFs); the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex (the Great Bear, Bob Marshall and the Scapegoat Wildernesses that are in the Lolo, Flathead, Helena and Lewis & Clark NFs);



Weed control sign in the Highwoods,
Judith RD, Lewis & Clark NF.

Photo by Jim Olivarez.

the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness (in the Gallatin and Custer NFs); the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness portion of the Bitterroot NF in Idaho.

Pelletized feeds (non-certified) are permitted in all restricted National Forest areas in Montana and Idaho.

The first year, 1996, of the weed seed free forage requirement in Idaho is an educational, "break-in" period. People not in compliance with the weed-free forage requirement are being advised of the weed prevention program, the objectives of the strategy and where they can purchase certified weed-free forage. Citations will be issued in cases of blatant, flagrant and repeated violations.



Greatest Reward: Fire Prevention Education Saves Life

*by Connie Riba-Fox,
Lolo National Forest,
Missoula, Montana*

Puppets teaching kindergarten students at Missoula's Chief Charlo School

Just a couple of weeks after she saw a fire prevention puppet show in her kindergarten class at Missoula's Chief Charlo School, five-year-old Sherika Fernando's clothes caught fire when she backed into a Christmas candle she did not know was lit. Because she remembered what the puppets had taught her, Sherika reacted immediately. She "stopped, dropped and rolled" and put out the fire, preventing serious injury or death.

We've received many drawings and thank-you letters from the children and teachers, but knowing that our instruction played a part in saving a life was the greatest possible reward.

The Lolo NF is a member of the Missoula

County Fire Prevention Association (MCFPA). Every year the Association offers the Fire Prevention Puppet show to all kindergarten classes in and adjacent to Missoula County.

The puppets and their firefighter friends talk with the children about checking smoke detectors, how to crawl low in smoke-filled rooms and how to escape from burning buildings. The children are also cautioned against playing with matches and are shown how to "stop, drop and roll" if their clothes should catch on fire.

But for the puppet program, Sherika could have been a tragic statistic in the number of children who are injured or die in fires each year. Fire prevention programs, like the

MCFPA's puppet show for kindergarten children, are providing effective education that plays a significant role in reducing the number of fire injuries and deaths.

This fall, MCFPA presented its puppet show 58 times for more than 1,800 children. Nearly every school in Missoula county requested the program in 1995. It was the largest response to date.

In addition to the Forest Service, the MCFPA includes representatives from the Missoula Rural Fire Department, the Montana Department of Natural Resources, Missoula City Fire Department, many outlying rural departments, the Montana Department of Justice, and the Montana Department of Emergency Services.

Missoula Area Reaches 108% of CFC Goal



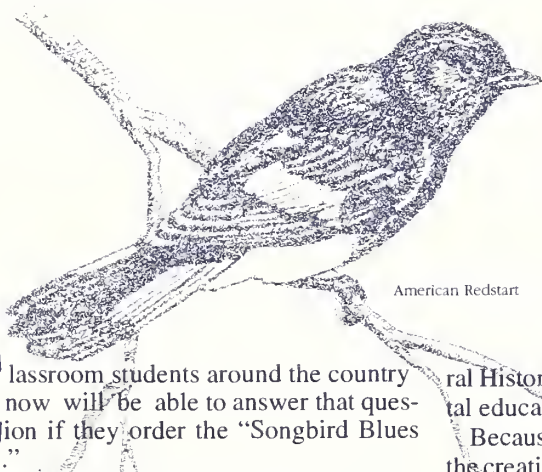
*by Dee Dee Green, Missoula Area CFC
Coordinator, RO Wilderness, Recreation &
Heritage Program*

Forest Service employees and retirees in the Missoula area donated a total of \$32,440 to the 1995 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), exceeding the Forest Service's assigned goal by \$2,440 (108%).

This compares with contributions of \$35,645 last year. Although less than the 1994 donations, the response this year was admirable considering recent Forest Service retirements and downsizing. Total contributions by Forest Service employees and retirees in Missoula county have ranged from \$24,963 in 1983 to \$35,645 in 1994.

The Missoula County CFC includes For-

est Service employees in the RO, the Inter-mountain Station Laboratories, Aerial Fire Depot, Missoula Technology & Development Center, Office of the General Council, the Lolo SO, Missoula RD, Ninemile RD, Seeley Lake RD and 498 retirees. By units, 1995 participation ranged from 10% to 100%. Per Capita contributions (among employees) ranged from \$80 to \$395 per contribution; actual contributions ranged from \$5 to \$1,000. I would like to thank and congratulate those who participated in the 1995 CFC campaign. You have done a great job.



American Redstart

Why Do Songbirds Sing The Blues?

by Susan Reel, Wildlife Interpretative Specialist,
Lolo National Forest So, Missoula, Montana

Classroom students around the country now will be able to answer that question if they order the "Songbird Blues Box."

The Songbird Blues Box is a traveling educational kit designed for teaching K-6 grade school children about neotropical (New World) migratory birds, their migration and wintering areas, and the land-use issues that contribute to their population decline.

In 1991, the Lolo National Forest's Wildlife Appreciation Program funded the development of the kit with money from America's Great Outdoors. The Songbird Blues Box is not just a box of neat visual aids. It contains an outstanding teacher's guide, created by Margaret Manning, Bob Petty, and Pat Tucker of the Montana Natu-

ral History Center, a non-profit environmental education center in Missoula.

Because all three have been involved in the creation of other traveling discovery kits, they fine-tuned the kit materials and created an outstanding, easy-to-use curriculum guide. The multi-disciplinary curriculum contains activity-centered lessons in science, social studies, drama, art and literature. It also contains video tapes, cassette tapes, posters, books, puppets, dolls, student research kits and a story feltboard.

The Songbird Blues Box and its creators were recently recognized for their excellence and received the 1995 Partners in Flight Public Awareness Award at a conference in Cape May, New Jersey. Partners in Flight is an international conservation program composed of governmental agencies and non-profit or-

ganizations dedicated to the conservation of neotropical migratory birds and their habitats.

As the result of an enthusiastic demand for the kit, more than 70 Songbird Blues Boxes are now in use throughout the U.S. and Mexico.

To help ensure effective use of the kits in Montana, the Lolo NF and Montana Natural History Center are now planning six teacher workshops with funding from a Natural Resource Conservation Education Program Grant.

For information about the workshops and the Songbird Boxes, telephone Susan Reel, Lolo NF, Missoula, at (406) 329-3831 or the Montana Natural History Center at (406) 243-6642.

Breaking New Ground

Running Wolf Timber Sale, Judith RD, Lewis & Clark NF

by Richard H. Smith,
Planning & Fire Staff Officer,
Lewis & Clark NF,
Great Falls, Montana

The Judith Ranger District is breaking new ground with the Running Wolf timber sale.

"Past timber harvests on the Judith District have been mostly clearcutting or other regeneration harvests," said District Ranger Larry Timchak, Stanford, Montana.

"The age, species, and structure of the trees in the Running Wolf area give us an opportunity to do something different. The Running Wolf timber sales are predominantly selection (1,000 acres) and commercial thinnings (325 acres)."

After the trees are harvested, about 300 acres will be underburned. The results will be more open grown stands in the ponderosa pine and drier Douglas-fir types. The openings simulate a canopy change caused by fire or insect and disease activity. Prescribed burning is also planned on about 1,000 acres to improve vegetative diversity and wildlife habitat.

The proposed silvicultural practices will maintain healthy stands of trees and a diversity of age/size classes while providing wood products in response to society's demands. Proposed burning will reestablish fire-dependent communities that have been replaced with Douglas-fir, juniper, and other trees and shrubs. This will reduce the forest fuels buildup and the risk of a catastrophic fire, and increase the forage available for grazing animals.

The project is not without controversy, however. "While the shift in harvest methods has been well received by the public," Timchak explains, "some interest groups are opposed to entering the Tollgate/Sheep roadless area and are concerned about elk security."



Douglas-fir filling in beneath ponderosa pine stands just off Yogo Creek. An example of forest succession and fuel build-up.

Negotiations are on-going on these issues. Pre-sale Forester Rick Abt and crew have the first of the three sales, Tollgate-Yogo, ready to go. It is scheduled to be sold later this winter.



Lake City High School student John Paragamian, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, looks through the materials in the Panhandle NFs' wildlife education "Traveling Trunk".

Photo by Beth Paragamian

Panhandle's Twelve "Traveling Trunks" Deliver Education

by Beth Paragamian, Watchable Wildlife Program, Idaho Panhandle NFs, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

ing as a grant project. The \$1,000 grant required the project be completed for students/by students. The grant was matched by Forest Service Natural Resources Conservation Education (NRCE)

funds to enhance the bird trunks and start three more: bears, bats and fish.

Two sixth-grade classes worked on bird projects in the spring of 1994. The students ordered reading materials, posters, and curriculum guides. They created activity pages, designed board games, carved and painted plaster bird eggs, and constructed mystery boxes. By year's end, the students had gathered enough materials to start four trunks: two songbird trunks; one bird-of-prey trunk; and one waterfowl and shorebird trunk.

The Panhandle's Wallace Ranger District, with a NRCE grant, developed a biodiversity trunk, a wetlands trunk, and a forest ecosystems trunk. Curriculum activity guides in all trunks come from Project Wild, NatureScope, Project Aquatic Wild,

EcoSystem Matters and relevant materials. The trunks also contain audio tapes (wildlife vocalizations), video tapes, puppets, games, puzzles, reference materials, and source books. Contents allow creativity and many teachers add more ideas to the trunk, lending a certain feeling of ownership.

The average cost for materials is \$600 for each trunk, compared to approximately \$2,000 for similar trunks.

The trunks were marketed to schools, government agencies, and community groups in northern Idaho in December of 1994. Within a month, all of the trunks were scheduled for classroom use and reserved every two weeks into the summer. During school breaks, trunks are in constant demand by scouts, youth groups, church organizations, park interpreters and home-schooling families.

For additional details about the Idaho Panhandle NFs' "Traveling Trunks", telephone Beth Paragamian, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, telephone (208) 765-7223.

Education is Key To Conservation

by Gloria Weisgerber, Public Affairs Specialist, RO Public Affairs Office

Can the Forest Service be the world's conservation leader without strong support of natural resource education programs? It was a compelling question for 90 employees of Region One who attended a Conservation Education Conference in Missoula last November.

The attendees were staff from all over the Region representing a wide range of disciplines. The common denominator was they believed that delivering information to the public which helped to convey understanding and appreciation of natural resources and ecosystems was a proper function of the Forest Service.

The sessions, presented largely by teachers, college professors and fellow employees, addressed such areas as how children

and adults learn—and the differences between the two; why some programs work and others don't; tips on how to design programs that will interest children, as well as how to attract and hold the attention of adults.

One basic rule of thumb emphasized at the conference was that the Forest Service should not be planning programs in a vacuum. Good networking and planning can make effective use of a wealth of material and existing programs. One important session was devoted to addressing the important subject of working with school systems and curricula. Another interesting session focused on how to finance education programs.

Whether we can be up to the task of

achieving our education goals with the public is not assured. Regional Forester Hal Salwasser pointed out that increasing human population is placing huge pressures on resources and land managers. However, there are ways to touch and affect public thinking, emphasized Flathead Forest Supervisor Joel Holtrop. His thought was that anyone who can speak from the heart about their love of nature has the ability to profoundly change the way people view the world.

Holtrop and Region Two's Pattyanne Corsentino both reiterated the importance of the Forest Service continuing their role in communicating the sense of wonder of our natural environment to the public. Communicating that sense of wonder—the how and why—was ultimately the focus of the conference.

Short Notes

Watchable Wildlife Conference, November 12-17, 1996, Huntington Beach, California (Waterfront Hilton Beach Resort). Sponsored by Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, California Department of Fish & Game, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and others. A national conference featuring stimulating sessions on developing watchable wildlife, fish and plant programs. For program details, registration information, deadlines for submitting papers, field trips, exhibits, etc., telephone Joelle Buffa, R-5 Fish & Wildlife, (415) 705-2881.

New R-1 Maps, including updated maps, and reprints; available for purchase for \$3: Rattlesnake Wilderness & National Recre-

ation Area (Lolo NF); Helena NF, new travel map; Kaniksu NF, visitor map; Beartooth Division Recreation Map, Custer NF; Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex Recreation Map (Great Bear, Scapegoat & Bob Marshall Wildernesses); Cedar River-Grand River National Grasslands, Custer NF (secondary base).

Beaverhead-Deerlodge NFs Administration Merged: Regional Forester Hal Salwasser announced in February that Forest Service Chief Jack Ward Thomas has approved combining the administration of the two National Forests into one unit, headquartered in Dillon, MT. He said that workers associated with the Deerlodge NF SO in Butte will continue to work in Butte. The Butte District Ranger will act on behalf of the Forest Supervisor in dealing with routine issues pertaining to Butte and the surrounding communities.

Removal of Hazards at 10 Old Mine Sites proposed near Basin, MT. and in the Tobacco Root Mountains, south of Whitehall, MT. The Forest Service proposes sealing, fencing and removing hazards that include open mine shafts and entrances, pits and unsafe buildings. For information about the proposed hazard-removal project, telephone Pat Barringer, Jefferson Ranger Station, # 3 Whitetail Rd., Whitehall, MT. 59759, (406) 287-3223.

Society of Range Management Recognizes Katie Bump's Achievements: The Montana Section of the Montana Society of Range Management recently honored Katie Bump, range land management specialist, Dillon RD, Beaverhead NF. She was presented a certificate for outstanding achievement in range management. Her nearly 20 years of range-land education work statewide was cited, noting her involvement with Montana Range Days, youth camps, 4-H and Future Farmers of America and rangeland management seminars since 1977.

Grant Godbolt Elected to Society of Range Management Board of Directors, for the Montana Section. He was elected to a three-year term on the board. Godbolt, Whitehall, MT., is district ranger for the Jefferson RD, Deerlodge NF.

Reunion: Three Former Ranger Districts North Fork, Clearwater NF, June 28-30. This gathering of all past and present employees and families of the three former ranger districts (Canyon, Bungalow, Kelly Creek) will be at the Old Canyon Ranger Station. For details, telephone Tam White, North Fork RD, 1225 Ahsahka Rd., Orofino, ID 83544: (208) 476-3775 (office) or (208) 476-7193 (home); and Darcy Pederson, Rt. 2, Box 679B, Grangeville, ID 83530: (208) 983-1963 (office) or (208) 983-0385 (home).

Scouring Solution

SCAT Machines Help Protect Priest Lake Waters

by Debbie Wilkins, forester (recreation), Priest Lake RD,
Panhandle National Forests

Each year, more and more people visit the beautiful waterways and islands of Priest Lake. But the growing number of visitors is having a direct impact on the lake's water quality.

While there are vault toilets on the islands, the growing volume of visitors now exceeds the capabilities of the toilets.

In an effort to help protect the water quality and recreational opportunities in the area, the Priest Lake RD has installed a Sanitizing Containers with Alternative Technologies (SCAT) machine operation at Kalispell Bay on Priest Lake. SCAT machines act like a big dishwasher for cleaning and sanitizing portable potties (five-gallon pickle buckets)

distributed by the district. Each visitor headed out to visit the islands is given one of the portable potties.

When visitors return to the Kalispell Bay launch, the camper can take the pail for cleaning and sanitizing in the SCAT machine. If the camper launched at Kalispell Bay, the cleaning is included in the launch fee. If they launched somewhere else, it costs them \$2.



Inner workings of SCAT machine at Kalispell Bay Campground, Priest Lake RD, Panhandle NFs: the cleaning solution tank, washing-machine, coin operated control box and some of the five-gallon portable potties. The SCAT machinery and buckets are now enclosed in a new shed. Photo by Grady Myers

At Kalispell Bay, the SCAT program has been a great success in protecting the water quality in this beautiful fishing, boating, swimming, and camping area.

The first season, 80 people used the SCAT machine to dispose of their waste. This represented 200 gallons of sewage that did not go on the shores of Priest Lake.

Potlatch Corporation Wildlife Biologist Recognized for Work in Bird Program



Bill Wall, Potlatch Corporation wildlife biologist, received the Regional Forester's award for outstanding support and cooperation with the R-1 neotropical migratory bird program.

by L. Christine Paige,
Neotropical Migratory Bird Coordinator,
RO Wildlife, Fisheries & Botany,
Missoula, Montana

Bill Wall, Lewiston, Idaho, Potlatch Corporation wildlife biologist, recently received the Regional Forester's award for "outstanding support and cooperation in the Northern Region Neotropical Migratory Bird Program" in 1994 and 1995.

Potlatch has been a full partner in the monitoring program for the past two years. They have hired crews and conducted monitoring surveys on Potlatch lands as well as on the Nez Perce and Clearwater NFs as part of the Region-wide effort.

Wall has been a tremendous asset in facilitating industry cooperation in this effort. He has done much to nurture the vision for the Northern Region program.

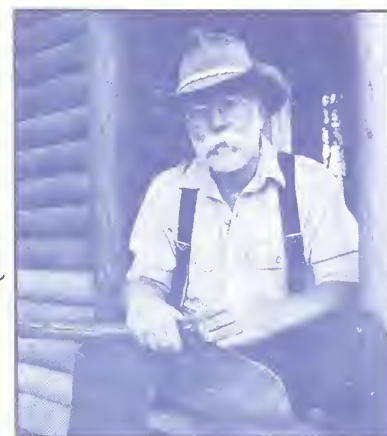
Potlatch is adding to the monitoring program by conducting further sampling at smaller scales in specific management areas in the Potlatch Corporation operating area. The Forest Service-Potlatch partnership is an outstanding example of a mutually-beneficial partnership in wildlife management.

Bernie Weisgerber Receives National Preservation Award

Bernie Weisgerber, R-1 historic preservation specialist, RO Engineering, has received the country's top preservation award. The National Trust for Historic Preservation presented Bernie with a 1995 Honor Award at their annual conference in Fort Worth, Texas.

The award was "for his dedication to preserving America's historic log structures and other historic buildings on public lands." Bernie has been a leader in forging partnerships to assure that public agencies managing historic properties have the skills to properly maintain buildings under their stewardship.

While undertaking projects, he and the preservation team seize the opportunity to train representatives from other agencies and preservation organizations in needed technical skill areas such as logwork, painting, masonry, roofing, and window repair. Videos of the training sessions, produced by Gene Colling, R-1 Public Affairs Office, and



Bernie Weisgerber
Photo by Kurt Wilson,
THE MISSOULIAN

publications, have furthered the impact of these "Learn by Doing" training sessions.

"America has benefited three-fold by the passion of Bernie Weisgerber," says Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. "He represents the diverse nature of the movement, yet once again his story reaffirms a recurring theme—passionate people working together to preserve our past for a better future."

The National Trust, chartered by Congress in 1949, is a non-profit organization which has long been in the forefront of the historic preservation movement. It has seven regional offices, owns 17 historic sites and works with thousands of local community groups in all 50 states.



Pat Aguilar

Pat Aguilar Named Deputy Supervisor for Idaho Panhandle National Forests

Pat A. Aguilar is the new deputy forest supervisor for the Idaho Panhandle NFs.

His 20-year career with the Forest Service included work as a range conservationist on the Sheridan (Montana) RD, Beaverhead NF, 1979. He holds a BS degree in range management from New Mexico State University (1973), a master's degree in range resources

from the University of Idaho (1975) and an executive master of public administration degree from the University of Utah (1994).

Aguilar reported to his assignment in Coeur d'Alene the first week of December. Prior to the new assignment, Aguilar served as group leader in the Intermountain Region State & Private Forestry for pest management, tribal government relations program management and as international forestry coordinator in Ogden, Utah.



Susan Matthews

Susan Matthews District Ranger For Wallace- Fernan Districts

Susan Matthews is the new district ranger for the Wallace and Fernan Ranger Districts, Idaho Panhandle NFs.

For the past seven years, she has been program leader for the Forests' silviculture programs. Prior to work in the supervisor's office, Matthews had assignments on the

Pacific Southwest Region's timber management staff in San Francisco and on ranger districts on the Kootenai and Nez Perce NFs.

She holds a BS degree in natural resource management from Colorado State University, a Master of Science in resource management from the University of Idaho and has completed graduate work in public administration at California State University at Hayward.

Beryl Johnston Retires: 40 Years With Forest Service

R-1 Regional Engineer **Beryl Johnston** retired in January, after 40 years with the Forest Service.

A native of Robertsdale, Alabama, Johnston is a graduate of Porterville (California) Union High School and holds a civil engineering degree from Fresno (California) State University. He served in the U.S. Army 1961-63, and attended Lewis & Clark College, Portland, Oregon, where he took graduate studies in public administration.

His Forest Service career started on the Sequoia NF in 1956. Subsequent assign-

ments included the Sierra NF and the Pacific Southwest regional headquarters; forest engineer for the Deschutes NF; and pre-construction engineer in the Forest Service's national headquarters in Washington, D.C.

He has been on the R-1 RO engineering staff since May of 1980. Since 1981, he has been regional engineer. Mr. and Mrs. Johnston will continue to make their home near Frenchtown, Montana.



Beryl Johnston

John Bisbee New Ranger Elk City, RD, Nez Perce NF

John Bisbee,

district ranger, Winona RD, Ouachita NF in Arkansas, has been named district ranger for the Elk City (Idaho) RD, Nez Perce NF. He reported to his new assignment in January.

A veteran of 19 years with

the Forest Service, Bisbee is a native of Indiana. He holds a degree in forest management from Purdue University (1977). He served four years with the U.S. Marine Corps as a helicopter crew chief, including a tour in Vietnam.

Bisbee started his career as a forester with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and has worked on the Chequamegon NF (Wisconsin), Wayne-Hoosier NF (Indiana), and the Routt, San Juan and Gunnison NFs (Colorado).

The Bisbees are the parents of two children: a son, Jason, who lives in Missouri, and a daughter, Julie, who is a high school senior in Indiana.



John Bisbee

Carl Gidlund New PAO For Idaho Panhandle NFs

Carl Gidlund is the new public affairs officer for the Idaho Panhandle National Forests. He reported to his new assignment in Coeur d'Alene in December. Prior to the IPNF assignment, Gidlund served as the public affairs officer for the Upper Columbia River Basin EIS Team in Boise. He worked on survey crews on the Flathead and Deerlodge NFs in 1956 and 1957.

Gidlund worked his way through the University of Montana as a Forest Service smokejumper. Gidlund holds two degrees in

journalism and has worked as a reporter and editor for several news organizations, including the *Anchorage Times* and *Tundra Times* in Alaska and a Montana radio station. His government service has included public affairs chief for the Bureau of Land Management in Alaska and Nevada and the National Forests and Grasslands in Texas; four years in the executive office of the President; five years in the U.S. Army; and public affairs chief for the Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare's six-state region, Denver.



Carl Gidlund

BEAVERHEAD-DEERLODGE NATIONAL FORESTS**Awards & Promotions**

BARBER, JAMES, student trainee soil scientist, Butte RD, promotion to SO
 BARRINGER, PATRICIA, civil engineering technician, Jefferson RD, quality step increase
 BOWEY, CHARLES, wildlife biologist, Madison RD, temporary promotion to Dillon RD
 DUECK, SANDRA, computer assistant, Jefferson RD, performance bonus award
 FOLLMAN, ELIZABETH, wildlife biologist, Jefferson RD, quality step increase
 GUMP, ROBERT, forester, Jefferson RD, performance bonus award
 HOWARD, GARY, realty specialist, SO, quality step increase
 KIECKBUSCH, SANDRA, support services specialist, Jefferson RD, performance bonus award
 LABAHN, WENDY, law enforcement officer, SO, performance bonus award
 OLSON, TRUDI, law enforcement assistant, SO, extra effort award
 STRICKLAND, LINSEY, law enforcement officer, SO, performance bonus award
 SULLIVAN, ROBERT, hydrologist, SO, extra effort award
 WINTERGERST, ROBERT, reclamation specialist, SO, extra effort award

BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST**Awards & Promotions**

CALLAHAN, TOM, social services aid, Anaconda JCC, promotion to social services assistant
 CASE, BILL, program manager, Anaconda JCC, performance bonus award
 ERICKSON, KEVIN, forestry technician, Gallatin NF, Hebgen Lake RD, promotion to welder training leader, Trapper Creek JCC
 HAYES, TED, welder helper, Trapper Creek JCC, promotion to welder training leader
 MCCORMACK, ANNEMARIE, community health nurse, Trapper Creek JCC, quality step increase
 MENK, JEFF, social services assistant, Trapper Creek JCC, quality step increase

New Employees

LOVEJOY, MARY, teacher, Trapper Creek JCC

Reassignment

MCCORMACK, JAMES, forester, Clearwater NF, Powell RD, reassigned to Darby RD

GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST**Awards & Promotions**

BLASEG, PAULETTE, resource clerk, Bozeman RD, quality step increase
 BURKENPAS, ANNA, personnel clerk, SO, performance bonus award
 COFFIN, CLAUDE, forester, Hebgen Lake RD, extra effort award
 GIBSON, DEBBIE, personnel assistant, SO, performance bonus award
 GRUNENWALD, SUE, personnel assistant, SO, performance bonus award
 HOPPE, PATRICK, range technician, Gardiner RD, quality step increase
 KEYES, CONNIE, personnel specialist, SO, quality step increase

IDAHO PANHANDLE NATIONAL FORESTS**Awards & Promotions**

FORD, GARY, soil scientist, SO, temporary promotion

New Employees

SIMMET, FREDRICK, lead forestry technician, Sandpoint RD
 BOLDT, MICHAEL, forestry technician, Sandpoint RD
 WOMBACHER, RICHARD, forestry technician, Sandpoint RD
 GREENFIELD, ROGER, forestry technician, Sandpoint RD
 SNELL, STEVEN, forestry technician, Sandpoint RD
 PALFREY, GLEN, forestry technician, Sandpoint RD

Reassignments/Transfers

DEL CARLO, ANITA, forestry technician, Bonners Ferry RD

LOLO NATIONAL FOREST**Awards & Promotions**

GOULD, RANDALL, hydrologist, Sequoia NF, Cannell Meadow RD, promotion
 KOEPKE, GLENN, forester, Superior RD, extra effort award
 LEWIS, LORI, forestry technician, Superior RD, extra effort award
 MARTIN, CHERYL, forestry technician, Superior RD, promotion
 MUCCI, DEBORAH, civil engineering technician, Missoula RD, extra effort award

REGIONAL OFFICE**Awards & Promotions**

ANTONICH, PATRICIA, program assistant, WRHP, promotion, quality step increase
 BAILEY, PATRICIA, supervisory personnel assistant, PM, promotion
 BECKES, BARBARA, forester, LM, quality step increase
 BOETTCHER, WILLIAM, forester, FRM, promotion, quality step increase
 BOLLENBACHER, BARRY, forester, FRM, promotion, quality step increase
 BOWLES, HOMES, forester, WRHP, performance bonus award
 CUSTER, DAVID, forestry technician, AFD, quality step increase
 ELLIOTT, ANDY, forestry technician, AFD, extra effort award
 ENGSTROM-SOLHEIM, KATHLEEN, office automation assistant, AFA, quality step increase
 ENNIS, JUDY, budget analyst, ADMIN, promotion, quality step increase
 ERICKSON, RONALD, land use specialist, LM, promotion, quality step increase
 FOX, BRUCE, rangeland management specialist, FRM, promotion, quality step increase
 HANSEN, LLOYD, airplane pilot, AFD, performance bonus award
 HUBBLE, ROBERT, forestry technician, AFD, extra effort award
 JACOBSEN, KRISTI, supervisory computer specialist, MS, promotion, quality step increase
 JESKE, BRUCE, supervisory computer specialist, MS, promotion, quality step increase
 KOPKA, BRIAN, forestry technician, AFD, extra effort award
 LEVESQUE, DAVE, supervisory supply management specialist, AFD, promotion
 MARQUIS, SANDRA, resource specialist, FRM, promotion, quality step increase
 NORMANDEAU, RONALD, supervisory cartographer, ENGR, performance bonus award
 PETRILLI, ANTHONY, forestry technician, AFD, extra effort award
 RIGGLEMAN, CLYDE, aircraft inspector, AFD, performance bonus award
 THOMAS, WILLIAM, lead forestry technician, AFD, extra effort award
 THURLKILL, Keith, forester, WRHP, quality step increase
 TROTTER, NANCY, office automation assistant, WRHP, promotion, quality step increase

New Employees

SHELLY, STEPHEN, botanist, WLF
 TRENT, WILLIAM, mechanical engineer, MTDC

Reassignments/Transfers

JEMMETT, COY, forest supervisor, Nez Perce NF, reassignment from Region 3, Prescott NF

Retirements

HANSEN, LLOYD, airplane pilot, AFD HEIST, ED, forester, LFP
 HUGHES, JOHN, deputy regional forester, RFO
 JOHNSON, BARRY, forester, LM
 JOHNSTON, BERYL, supervisory general engineer, ENG
 RIGGLEMAN, CLYDE, aircraft inspector, AFD
 WILLIAMSON, RICHARD, personnel management specialist, PM

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In Memoriam



MILLARD C. EVENSON, 86, died February 7, in Sandpoint, Idaho. A native of Barton, North Dakota, he moved with his parents to a homestead in Montana when he was six years old. He graduated from Flathead County High School and worked summers as a lookout and alternate ranger for the Forest Service. Evenson received his forestry degree from the University of Montana. After serving as a foreman for the Civilian Conservation Corps in Yellowstone National Park, he worked as an assistant ranger in Avery, Idaho and as a district ranger on the Lochsa, Bungalow and Bigfork Ranger Districts. He moved to the Kaniksu National Forest as the timber staff officer in 1944 and retired in 1964.

ROSS P. MIDDLEMIST, 84, died February 19 at his home in Lolo, Montana. Born in Plains, Montana, he worked for the General Land Office during the summers from 1928 to 1933. In 1938, he began work for the Forest Service on the Missoula Ranger District, Lolo NF, as a packer. He served with the U.S. Marines during World War II in the South Pacific, including Guam, Midway and Tinian. Following his military service, he returned to the Missoula RD and became a dispatcher for the district in 1947 and was later an alternate district ranger. He was district fire management officer at the time of his retirement in 1969.

BILLY CLAYTON REEVES, 75, formerly of Missoula, Montana, died February 10 at his home in Mesa, Arizona. Born in Kalispell, Montana, he graduated from Missoula County High School and attended the University of Montana. He worked as a civil engineer for the Northern Pacific Railroad, Bonneville Power Administration and the Forest Service. Reeves retired from the Forest Service's Northern Region headquarters in Missoula in 1973.

JOHN C. "SMOKEY" STOVER, 74, of Anchorage, Alaska, died January 17 at Providence Extended Care Center in Anchorage. He was born in Missoula and served in the U.S. Army in World War II as a medic and in the Korean conflict as a first lieutenant with the Combat Engineers and the Alaska National Guard. A forestry graduate of the University of Montana, he worked for the Forest Service in Montana and Idaho.

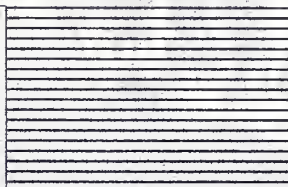
ROBERT MERLYN YORTON, 71, died January 31, at his home in Stevensville, Montana. He was born in Darby, Montana, graduated from Darby High School and served in the U.S. Marines during World War II, in the South Pacific. He retired from the Forest Service's Intermountain Fire Sciences Laboratory in Missoula.

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